

like *S. fragosa* in appearance, but the two plants are not very closely related. *S. fragosa* Sksd. differs in having a more adnate calyx with spreading, narrower lobes; prominently 3-nerved, sessile petals; subulate, shorter filaments; and shorter follicles that have shorter, yet more strongly curved beaks.

WILHELM SUKSDORF

BOOK REVIEW

THE LARGER BRITISH FUNGI*

"The object of this Handbook," says Mr. Rendle in the preface, "is to supply an introduction to the study of the larger British fungi. When considering the preparation of a new edition of the 'Guide to Sowerby's Models of British Fungi,' by the late W. G. Smith, which had served also as an introduction to the systematic study of the larger fungi, it was thought that its value might be increased by including all the British genera of Basidiomycetes. This has now been done, and additional figures have been added from Smith's 'Synopsis of British Basidiomycetes.' The Introduction has been greatly extended, the descriptions generally have been revised and enlarged, and additional matter of economic and biological interest has been included. Mr. Ramsbottom has, in fact, rewritten the book, while retaining the form and arrangement of the original 'Guide'."

The volume contains 222 pages of text and 141 figures. The introduction treats of fungi in general and their main groups; fairy rings; luminosity; mycorrhiza; changes in color when sporophores are cut or broken; poisonous and edible fungi; fungi as food; and the ecology of the fungi. Under Basidiomycetes, the author treats at some length not only their classification but also their cytology, morphology, and development. In connection with *Amanita phalloides*, the deadly poisonous fungi are discussed, with symptoms and treatment; while under *Psalliota campestris* the growing of mushrooms is described. In the same way, much interesting and valuable information is distributed throughout the volume in connection with suggestive species.

* Ramsbottom, J. A Handbook of the Larger British Fungi, pp. i-iv, 1-222. British Museum, London, 1923. Price 7/6.

No attempt has been made to alter nomenclature or to eradicate certain errors common to most texts on this subject. The book can be recommended to students as probably the best guide to the larger fungi of England to be had in compact form, and as a very convenient introduction to most of the genera of the basidiomycetes and ascomycetes occurring in temperate regions.

W. A. MURRILL

NEWS NOTES

Dr. W. A. Murrill left for South America on January 12, to be gone three months. He was sent by the New York Botanical Garden on a Mycological expedition to secure specimens of fungi in Argentina, Brazil, and British Guiana. He sailed on the S. S. "Van Dyck" direct to Buenos Aires and will make several stops on the return journey.

Dr. Arthur Hollick was the official representative of the Torrey Club as well as of the New York Botanical Garden and the Botanical Society of America at the Commemorative Meeting to Joseph Leidy held in Philadelphia on December 6th.

At the annual meeting of the New York Academy of Sciences Dr. Robert A. Harper made the presidential address on Growth and Form in Plants.

From Science we note that Dr. H. A. Gleason of the New York Botanical Garden has recently resigned his position as assistant director and become curator. He will devote most of his time to the study of the flora of northern South America. Dr. Marshall A. Howe succeeds Dr. Gleason as assistant director of the Garden.

Mr. Wilhelm Suksdorf, who describes a new Saxifrage in this issue, has just published the first two numbers of "Werdenda" a pamphlet to be issued at irregular intervals describing new species of plants from Washington. In number two of the magazine he describes twenty six new species and varieties of plants. The magazine is printed in German.

ERRATA

On page 41 (number 3) for *Arctostaphylos unedo* read *Arbutus unedo*.

On page 68 (number 4), line 20, for "var. of form" read "var. as form."